

WWE Clash In Italy: A Unique Place To Be

Clash In Italy

Date: May 31, 2026

Location: Inalpi Arena, Turin, Italy

Commentators: Michael Cole, Corey Graves

We're overseas again and it's weird to see this taking place on a Sunday afternoon stateside. There is something of a triple main event with the two World Title matches and the rematch between Brock Lesnar and Oba Femi. Throw in some women's matches and we should be good to go. Let's get to it.

The opening video looks at the card and yeah I'm pretty sold on this one. All five matches look anywhere from good to great.

Smackdown World Title: Gunther vs. Cody Rhodes

Rhodes is defending and goes with some quick shots to the face to start but his springboard is chopped out of the air. Gunther misses a charge in the corner and can't get the sleeper but he can boot Rhodes in the face to knock him down. Rhodes fires back with the elbows, including a Bionic Elbow, setting up a Pedigree for two. Back up and a shotgun dropkick knocks Rhodes down again, only to come back with a springboard kick to the head.

Cross Rhodes gives Rhodes two but the Cody Cutter lands in the quickly broken sleeper. The sleeper goes on again and Rhodes is in trouble, with Gunther hammering him down to keep it on. Rhodes finally gets out and strikes away, even getting his own quickly broken sleeper. The Cody Cutter connects and Rhodes hits his own clothesline. There's Cross Rhodes for the sudden pin at 11:40...but Gunther immediately protests that he was under the rope.

Rating: B-. Uh, well ok. I was expecting this to go about twice as long though the ending pretty much guarantees that the rematch will get that chance instead. These two are capable of having a big, long match and this was more of a preview for one of those than the match itself. It's far from bad, but I was expecting a lot more.

Post match the replay shows Gunther is absolutely right, as his foot was all the way out of the ring.

We recap Jade Cargill challenging Rhea Ripley for the Smackdown Women's Title. Ripley beat her at Wrestlemania and Cargill wants to reestablish her dominance, which has included beating up Ripley's associates.

Smackdown Women's Title: Rhea Ripley vs. Jade Cargill

Ripley is defending and seems a bit tentative to go after Cargill. A quick toss sends Ripley down but she's right back up to send Cargill outside. Cargill blocks the cannonball and gives Ripley the fall away slam on the floor. Back in and Ripley is whipped hard into the corner, leaving Cargill to do some pushups. A suplex cuts off Ripley's comeback attempt and we hit the chinlock.

Back up and Cargill hammers away but misses a charge into the post. Ripley fights back and hits a missile dropkick for two but the Razor's Edge is countered into a backdrop. Cargill charges into a boot though and they're both down. Jaded is escaped and Ripley hits a headbutt, only for Riptide to be blocked. Ripley hits something like a Razor's Edge for two and she gets Cargill in an electric chair. They manage to flip over the top and crash out to the floor, where Ripley lands on her feet.

Cargill gets dropped face first onto the apron but she's able to reverse Riptide into a DDT for two. Ripley catches her going up top and grabs a belly to back superplex for two more,

leaving both of them down. Cue Michin and B Fab but Ripley hits Riptide anyway. The goons (eventually) put the foot on the ropes and that's a double ejection, only for Charlotte to pop up and dive onto the two of them. Jaded connects but Charlotte puts the foot on the rope this time. Another headbutt and Riptide retain the title at 17:06.

Rating: B. That's pretty easily Cargill's best match ever and it shouldn't be a surprise as Ripley can be something of a miracle worker. They played to Cargill's strengths here and made it into a showdown of two powerhouses, with Ripley having to adjust in the middle. The interferences made sense, though Charlotte might want to get paid back for her efforts. Say with a title shot.

We recap Brock Lesnar vs. Oba Femi. They fought at Wrestlemania and Femi beat him in short order. Lesnar retired but then decided he was going to fight anyway. Therefore, it's time for another monster battle.

Oba Femi vs. Brock Lesnar

Paul Heyman is here with Lesnar, who jumps Femi from behind to start and hits three F5's in less than thirty seconds. A fourth F5 gets two and Lesnar looks confused. The Kimura goes on but Femi powers up for the spinebuster and a break. Another Kimura is broken up with some rams into the corner but another F5 gets two.

Femi hits a not so great chokeslam for two and a Cactus Clothesline puts them both on the floor. The arm is sent into the post and Lesnar gets another Kimura, which is reversed with a posting. The fans want Suplex City but have to settle for another F5 through the announcers' table. Femi just stands up though and charges back in, where the Fall From Grace is escaped. A seventh F5 gives Lesnar the pin at 6:23.

Rating: B-. I never know how to rate these things. This was the finisher spamming Lesnar match of days gone by, though it

did get more interesting when you wondered if Femi could come back. I wouldn't have had Femi lose here, though at least it was to Lesnar, which is hardly some big terrible defeat. Odds are we get a third match, and that could be quite the spectacle again.

Commentary talks about last night's AAA show and we look at the rather epic mask vs. mask main event.

Women's Intercontinental Title: Becky Lynch vs. Sol Ruca

Ruca is challenging after making her main roster debut shortly after Wrestlemania. Lynch wasn't impressed and got laid out by Ruca, who is getting a chance to catch Lynch again. Ruca ducks a right hand to start and knocks her into the corner, setting up a kick to send Lynch face first into the middle buckle. A standing moonsault gives Ruca two but Lynch knocks her outside for a baseball slide.

Lynch misses a dive and Ruca hangs herself up in the Tree Of Woe, only to avoid a right hand to send Lynch's hand into the post. Back in and Ruca gets two off a sunset flip but Lynch knocks her down again. They head outside so Lynch can whip her into the barricade a few times. Back in and Lynch wins a slugout but gets sent into the corner for the German suplex. A missile dropkick and running knee get two on Lynch but she reverses the Sol Snatcher into a cross armbreaker.

Ruca manages to flip over though and gets an STF. That's broken up and Lynch kicks her in the face for two before going up top. A super X Factor brings Lynch back down for two but Lynch shoves the referee into the ropes to crotch Ruca on top. The superplex drops Ruca but she flips out of a DDT and nails a superkick to leave them both down.

A handspring moonsault doesn't quite work as she gets caught in the ropes and just kind of crashes into Lynch instead. Back in and Ruca flips into a Manhandle Slam for two but Lynch

tries a Sol Snatcher of her own. That doesn't work either as Ruca pulls her into a Manhandle Slam for two more. Back up and Lynch tries an exploder into the corner, which is reversed into a quick Sol Snatcher to give Ruca the pin and the title at 13:54.

Rating: B-. There were the usual amount of mini botches that you kind of have to expect from someone who moves around like Ruca. What matters the most though is that Ruca got a big win clean to win a title on the main roster. That's how you give someone new a major rub and Lynch knows exactly how to do that. I'm not sure where Ruca goes from here but she is certainly off to the right start.

We recap Jacob Fatu vs. Roman Reigns for the Raw World Title. Reigns retained over Fatu at Backlash but Fatu went after him again, setting up a rematch under Tribal Combat rules. Therefore, anything goes, with the title and head of the family on the line.

Raw World Title: Roman Reigns vs. Jacob Fatu

Fatu is challenging in Tribal Combat, meaning anything goes. They stare at each other to start and trade the big shoves. Reigns' headlock is broken up so he settles for a clothesline, followed by some rams into the buckles. The threat of the Tongan Death Grip sends Reigns outside and the suicide dive takes him down again. They fight into the crowd with Fatu firing off some headbutts to take over.

They wind up at the concession stand, where Reigns hits him in the head with a bucket. Reigns throws what I believe were some bananas into the crowd and it's time to go back to ringside. Fatu fights back but gets dropped, allowing Reigns to pull out a table. Fatu jumps Reigns and takes that away, with the Reigns being knocked down outside. The steps are thrown inside, but Reigns fights back to knock Fatu outside.

The steps are launched over the top and onto Fatu's head for

the big knockdown and the fans certainly approve. Back in and Reigns fires off the ten clotheslines in the corner (with the fans counting along), followed by a big boot. The Superman Punch misses though and Fatu clotheslines him into the running backplash. Fatu rains down the right hands in the corner but Reigns is back with a pop up Superman Punch to leave them both down. Back up and Fatu gets the Tongan Death Grip, sending Reigns outside.

That means another Superman Punch, with Fatu crashing outside next to him. Reigns whips out a toolbox and crushes Fatu's hand, meaning there's no Death Grip. The hand is crushed again, this time against the steps, but Fatu knocks him into the corner. The running Umaga Attack connects and they go outside, with Reigns nailing a Superman Punch. Reigns spears him through the barricade (knocking over two guards in the process) and they head back inside so a spear can connect for two.

With nothing else working, Reigns rips off three of the four top turnbuckle pads. That takes too long and Fatu tries the Death Grip, only to get sent into one of the exposed buckles. Fatu hits a spear of his own for two of his own but the triple jump moonsault misses. A pop up Samoan drop puts Reigns down again though and now the triple jump moonsault can connect, with the near fall hitting Fatu low. They slug it out until Fatu gets the Tongan Death Grip. That's broken up with some rams into the exposed buckle and another spear sends Fatu through the table in the corner. A regular spear retains the title at 27:10.

Rating: B. It was a good fight, but it never reached that level that would have made it great. I could believe Fatu had a chance at winning but Reigns eventually just turned on the jets and blew him away. It wasn't a bad match at all, though I was expecting this to get crazy and instead it was just a violent fight.

Post match the Usos come in to acknowledge Reigns, which Fatu has to do tomorrow. The Bloodline leaves as the MFT's are watching from the crowd. Fatu looks over at them and eventually follows Reigns and the Usos up the aisle to end the show.

Overall Rating: B. I would actually call this a bit of a disappointment, as I was expecting an awesome show and instead got one that was just good. There's nothing bad about any of this and the main event did what it needed to do, but I never felt like I was seeing some huge fight. It's in a weird place of stretching things out from the Wrestlemania season and stretching them towards whatever they're doing in the summer, leaving this as a bit of a middle of nowhere show. It's worth a glance if you have nothing else to do, but that's about all.

Results

Cody Rhodes b. Gunther – Cross Rhodes

Rhea Ripley b. Jade Cargill – Riptide

Brock Lesnar b. Oba Femi – F5

Sol Ruca b. Becky Lynch – Sol Snatcher

Roman Reigns b. Jacob Fatu – Spear

Remember to follow me on Twitter and Bluesky @kbreviews and head over to my Amazon author page with 30 different cheap wrestling books at:

<http://www.amazon.com/Thomas-Hall/e/B00E6282W6>

WWE Clash In Italy 2026 Preview

We're overseas again and that means we should be in for another white hot crowd. These shows have turned into a highlight of the WWE calendar, mainly due to how hot the crowds tend to be. That has me interested in what we're going to be seeing, with the pair of World Title matches headlining the show. As usual, there are only five matches, but it means we could have a good show if the middle of the pack matches deliver. Let's get to it.

Smackdown Women's Title: Rhea Ripley(c) vs. Jade Cargill

This is a Wrestlemania rematch, albeit with the roles reversed. That makes for an interesting situation, as Cargill has been on a rampage about wanting to get her title back. That has me wondering where this is going, as it feels like Charlotte is going to be waiting in the wings for the winner. You could go either way, as the two options here are looking pretty equal.

I'll take Ripley to retain here, as it feels like we could be seeing Charlotte get the title showdown next, and probably winning (throwing Money In The Bank to Alexa Bliss could make for an interesting summer). This could absolutely go to Cargill again, but I'll take Ripley to retain, as there isn't much of a point in having Ripley lose the title back so fast. If nothing else, at least they should get more time than they got at Wrestlemania.

Women's Intercontinental Title: Becky Lynch(c) vs. Sol Ruca

Ruca has shown up in a big splash on the main roster and I'm digging her stuff thus far. She has something of a presence to

her and when you throw in one of the flashiest finishers around, there is some potential for quite the push. At the same time, you can tell that she's in for something special as she's immediately going in against Lynch, which is quite the opening feud. But does she win the title here?

Yeah I think she does, as this feels like it could be the big surprise title change of the show. Ruca has already lost a fairly high profile match (at least given her status on the roster) and I'm not sure I would have that happen again. You don't want her to lose her wings so quickly and a win over Lynch would be a huge deal. She doesn't have to keep the title for a long time, but she needs to win it and I think we'll see that here.

Oba Femi vs. Brock Lesnar

Here we have another Wrestlemania rematch and the way around the whole "Lesnar is retired" is "yeah he's retired but he's wrestling anyway", which is hardly the best way to go. At the same time, I want to see the two of them beat the living daylights out of each other again, just like they did at Wrestlemania. Femi is feeling like he could be the next monster thing around here and it has me wondering just how much WWE agrees.

In a pick that could blow up in my face, I'm going to take Femi to beat Lesnar again. While there is little shake in losing to Lesnar, Femi losing so soon is not going to do him any good. Femi needs to be treated like the next unstoppable monster and have his first loss be in a major spot. In this case, he needs to go over to make it clear that he can beat even a souped up Lesnar. It's the best way to go and hopefully WWE realizes that.

Smackdown World Title: Cody Rhodes(c) vs. Gunther

Now this one has changed a good bit for me, as I wasn't overly interested in the match until we got to the final Smackdown.

These two had a heck of a face to face promo and it made me that much less sure about who was going to win the match. While Rhodes getting the big win feels likely, Gunther guaranteeing another big win left me unsure, as he has lived up to his word thus far. That's not out of the question, but do they actually go in that direction?

I'm actually going to say yes they do, with Gunther winning the title. Gunther is the definition of a big bad who has to be slain and I'm thinking they'll actually go with the title change. Rhodes is often better when he is chasing the title and that would be the right move here. Even if Gunther beats him clean, it gives Rhodes something to do over the summer, perhaps via the King Of The Ring.

Raw World Title: Roman Reigns(c) vs. Jacob Fatu

And now we have what should be wrapping the show up in the form of Tribal Combat. In other words, two big, strong Samoans are going to beat the living daylights out of each other over the title and the right to be the Tribal Chief. Basically that means the loser has to serve the winner, which could be kind of dull if Reigns wins but kind of amazing if Fatu wins.

I'm not sold on the idea but I think I'll take Fatu to win the title. Raw needs something to really shake things up and Fatu could certainly be that thing. I'm not sure where things go after that, but Fatu could be the one who gets the big push and he could absolutely have it happen here. It's a pick that doesn't feel likely, but I want the craziness that comes with Fatu on top of the show.

Overall Thoughts

There is some serious potential with this show, as you have the two World Title matches plus Femi vs. Lesnar, all of which should be outstanding. That leaves the two women's matches and they both have potential as well. If the crowd is a big factor, we could be in for something special. The other

European shows have been that way and there is no reason this shouldn't be as well.

Remember to follow me on Twitter and Bluesky @kbreviews and head over to my Amazon author page with 30 different cheap wrestling books at:

<http://www.amazon.com/Thomas-Hall/e/B00E6282W6>